

# **Healthy Environment**

**Maintain and Improve the Quality and  
Sustainability of Alexandria's  
Environment**

<b>OBJECTIVE:</b>	<b>Healthy Environment</b>
<b>Initiative 2A:</b>	<p><b>URBAN FORESTRY</b></p> <p><b>Implement the recommendations of the Urban Forestry Master Plan to achieve The American Forest's suggested goal of 40% tree canopy and ensure the sustainability of Alexandria's urban forest by promoting tree planting on public and private properties to produce a multi-aged and diverse tree community.</b></p>
<b>Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to sponsor semi-annual tree sales for City residents.</li> <li>• Create a grant program to permit use of public funds to subsidize all or a portion of the cost of planting trees on private property.</li> <li>• Establish a "Tree Bank" to fund tree planting on both public and private properties; funded through various sources such as development, donations and other sources.</li> <li>• Conduct annual tree canopy surveys through 2015 to evaluate the discreet changes as a result of the program initiatives.</li> </ul>
<b>Measures:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of trees sold at City sponsored semi-annual tree sales</li> <li>• # of trees planted through grants.</li> <li>• # of trees planted through sources such as a tree bank and development related activities.</li> <li>• % change in canopy cover.</li> </ul>

<b>OBJECTIVE:</b>	<b>Healthy Environment</b>
<b>Initiative 2B:</b>	<p><b>OPEN SPACE</b></p> <p><b>The City will continue to implement the strategies identified in the approved Open Space Master Plan, including its current, measurable actions to protect an additional 34 acres to reach the 100 acre goal for open space by 2013.</b></p>
<b>Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open space will be protected through acquisition of identified valuable open space sites (using the remaining Open Space Fund and) and/or reenact the 1% of real estate tax set aside for the Open Space Trust Fund to acquire additional open space property.</li> <li>• Continued partnership with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust (NVCT) will increase the number of voluntary conservation easements on private property in the City.</li> <li>• Continued dedication of public access open space easements through private development in the City will provide more open space on newly developed sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Measures:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of valuable open space sites acquired and total acreage acquired by 2013;</li> <li>• # of voluntary conservation easements</li> <li>• # of acres of voluntary conservation easements</li> <li>• # of outreach and educational opportunities/year</li> <li>• # of development cases with public access open space easements provided; and</li> <li>• # of acres of public access open space easements provided</li> </ul>

<b>OBJECTIVE:</b>	<b>Healthy Environment</b>
<b>Initiative 2C:</b>	<b>CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN</b>  <b>Develop and begin implementation of a Climate Change Action Plan to reduce emissions by 2012 to 2005 levels.</b>
<b>Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a Climate Change Action Plan that identifies strategies to mitigate impacts resulting from climate change.</li> <li>• Implement variety of energy conservation measures such as: purchase of hybrid vehicles, retrofitting street lights and traffic lights with LED technology</li> <li>• Install renewable energy technology on one City owned building by 2012.</li> <li>• Purchase 5% of City government electricity needs through green certificates by 2010.</li> <li>• Perform Level Two Energy Audits for at least two of the top energy-consuming City owned buildings by 2012.</li> <li>• Reduce energy consumption by the City government, its residents, and businesses via the development and implementation of an energy conservation and green building resource center by 2012.</li> <li>• Train 20 local residents for jobs currently available in energy efficiency/conservation and weatherization field by 2012.</li> </ul>
<b>Measures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of City government electricity needs purchased through green certificates by 2010.</li> <li>• Number of hybrid vehicles added to City fleet by 2012.</li> <li>• Number of street lights and traffic lights retrofitted with LED technology by 2012.</li> <li>• Number of Level Two Energy Audits performed of the top energy-consuming City owned buildings by 2012.</li> <li>• Reduction of energy consumption by the City government, its residents, and businesses via the development and implementation of an energy conservation and green building resource center by 2012.</li> <li>• Number of local residents trained for jobs currently available in energy efficiency/conservation and weatherization field by 2012.</li> </ul>

<b>OBJECTIVE:</b>	<b>Healthy Environment</b>
<b>Initiative 2D:</b>	<p><b>WATER QUALITY</b></p> <p><b>Enhance the ecological integrity of waterways and promote citizen awareness of water quality and resource issues and maintain and enhance storm water and sanitary infrastructure and stream systems to minimize environmental impacts.</b></p>
<b>Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pursue water conservation measures and incentives throughout the City including the use of grey water and innovative uses of storm water by using existing environmental programs such as Chesapeake Bay Ordinance or Green Building Policy.</li> <li>• Develop a Stormwater Utility Fee policy by 2010 with implementation completed by 2011.</li> <li>• Reduce impacts of combined sewer overflows on receiving waters by enhancing efforts to implement Area Reduction Plan and other mitigation measures. This will be done by actively participating in TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) processes currently underway for the Chesapeake Bay, and Cameron Run/Hunting Creek. Initiate a study evaluating alternatives on how best to undertake additional steps to reduce CSO impacts by 2012.</li> <li>• Enhance and restore streams in the City by stream restoration/stabilization projects</li> <li>• Improve water quality through proper maintenance of the best management practices (BMPs).</li> </ul>
<b>Measures:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of projects by 2012, pursuing water conservation measures and incentives throughout the City including the use of grey water and innovative uses of storm water by using existing environmental programs such as Chesapeake Bay Ordinance or Green Building Policy.</li> <li>• Development a Stormwater Utility Fee policy by 2010 with implementation completed by 2011.</li> <li>• Reduction in impact by Combined Sewer System will be measured by the acres separated (both onsite and offsite) and contributions for this purpose.</li> <li>• Stream restoration will be measured by linear feet of stream restored.</li> <li>• Number of BMPs inspected.</li> </ul>

<b>OBJECTIVE:</b>	<b>Healthy Environment</b>
<b>Initiative: 2E:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL BENCHMARKS</b>  <b>Develop a series of environmental benchmarks, indicators and performance measures that will enable the City to evaluate progress towards sustainability.</b>
<b>Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a reporting system that collects sustainability related data from various City departments and community.</li> <li>• Report the results to the stakeholders such as the City Council, Environmental Policy Commission and the community at regular intervals.</li> </ul>
<b>Measures:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of square foot of green roofs constructed and number of BMPs constructed.</li> <li>• Number of linear feet of streams restored.</li> <li>• Number of trees planted</li> <li>• Number of code red air days</li> <li>• % of waste stream that is recycled</li> <li>• Number of trees planted per year</li> <li>• Energy use per capita</li> </ul>

<b>OBJECTIVE:</b>	<b>Healthy Environment</b>
<b>Initiative 2F:</b>	<b>RECYCLING</b>  <b>Expand the City's recycling programs to exceed the state requirements and achieve a diversion goal of 35% by 2011.</b>
<b>Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve curbside recycling collection program to move to a cart collection system through the contracting process.</li> <li>• Increase education and outreach: by (a) Composting Instructional Video – produced by TC Williams student in conjunction with Master Gardeners, Cooperative Extension and the City. Create Backyard Composting and Grass cycling brochure to reduce the amount of yard waste going into the waste stream</li> <li>• Continue to focus on the Plastic Bag Recycling Initiative.</li> <li>• Continue enforcement of the Non-residential and Multi-family Recycling Requirement.</li> <li>• Continue to partner with local businesses to maximize marketing opportunities and various events.</li> <li>• Work with Habitat for Humanity ReStore and Fairfax County on a reuse event.</li> <li>• Continue to work with the Schools and City facilities to increase education and outreach and recycling at each location.</li> <li>• Continue to promote small metal recycling at the Covanta Waste-To-Energy Facility through the website and other outreach methods.</li> </ul>
<b>Measures:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual recycling rate report mandated by the State of Virginia.</li> </ul>

<b>OBJECTIVE:</b>	<b>Healthy Environment</b>
<b>Initiative 2G:</b>	<b>GREEN BUILDINGS</b>  <b>Expand and enhance the City Green Building Program including incorporating green building practices into existing structures.</b>
<b>Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an enforcement strategy for the Green Building Policy approved in April of 2009 by 2011.</li> <li>• Identify and remove code/zoning impediments to building green by 2011.</li> <li>• Approve a green building incentive program by 2012.</li> <li>• Perform at least 3 green building and energy related workshops by 2011.</li> <li>• Develop and launch the Green Building Resource Center by 2012.</li> </ul>
<b>Measures:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of green buildings approved.</li> <li>• Number of green buildings constructed.</li> <li>• Number of green roofs installed.</li> <li>• Number of existing building that have conducted energy audits</li> <li>• Number of customers helped by Green Building Resource Center.</li> </ul>



<b>OBJECTIVE:</b>	<b>Healthy Environment</b>
<b>Initiative 2H:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AIR QUALITY</b></li> <li>• <b>Maintain and improve ambient air quality in the City and educate the community on air quality issues.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insure that all large sources of air pollution have state of the art air pollution control equipment and inspect these sources routinely.</li> <li>• Participate in regulatory and permitting processes and regional planning efforts.</li> <li>• Implement the City/Mirant Settlement Agreement requiring additional controls at the Mirant Potomac River Power Generating Plant.</li> <li>• Implement the City's Transportation Master Plan focusing on transit, smart growth, and alternative modes of transportation.</li> <li>• Maintain the City's ambient air monitoring program.</li> <li>• Conduct an emissions inventory periodically.</li> </ul>
<b>Measures:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of Air Quality Action days.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of inspections of major air pollution sources in the City.</li> <li>• Emission reductions from larger sources of air pollution.</li> <li>• Collect and report toxics emissions within the City using EPA's TRI (Toxics Release Inventory).</li> </ul>